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which I was attacked, along with Senator Lynch, where I talked about the fact that I didn't particularly think that outside lobbying and effort to influence leadership was a change that I would like to see happen and I would like to reemphasize that again. When we decide who the leadership of this Legislature is, we're deciding among the 49 of us who will lead us forward in the next two years. It's a choice, as a body, that we make. And, yes, it does influence and have impact outside of the body. Let's acknowledge that. But, at the same time, we're electing our leadership. We got elected by the people of this state to come down here and represent our districts and then, together, we try to move forward and address different issues and elect the leadership to help lead us forward on those issues. I think that that process has always been one in the past that had the lobbyist off limits on; yes, sometimes they got involved but a lot of times it ended up being counterproductive. A lot of outside groups decided this year that they are going to get involved in that. I don't want to see that change either. I don't want to see us go to an open ballot and make the change from the secret ballot because there are good reasons not to make that change, and I think, more than that, this idea that outside influences should be in here making decisions and try to influence the leadership of choices that we make for ourselves, as a Legislature, is another mistake that I hope won't continue into the future. So I've seen some things happening here lately that perhaps are well-intentioned and the end result, I think, people have in mind may be something worth considering, obviously, but, in my view, it will have a negative impact, not a positive impact. And so I ask you please to vote against the Witek amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, Senator Witek, surely you jest. There is no chance whatsoever that this proposal is going to get 25 votes, so it puts me in one of those rare situations where I can be flippant and lighthearted, not light-headed or empty-headed. Senator Witek, in a legislative body, you have a type of diplomacy that takes place and in the realm of diplomacy, whether in a legislative body, in national or international relations, diplomacy, as a general rule, consists of being able to make statements subject to multiple interpretations, then capable of total and complete denial. That's diplomacy. Lying is a part of the legislative process. Without lying, you couldn't have a functioning